1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Grants to Rural	Amount released	25.78	14.12	22.955	13.65839
	Schools for purchase of sports equipments & development of playfield	No. of schools assisted	36	24	29	18
3	Grants for Promotion	Amount released	16.66	1.65	10.80	26.10
	of Sports in Universities & Colleges	No. of Collage/ Schools assisted	6	3	4	7
4	Grants for Installation	Amount released	144.955	0.00	0.00	0.00
	of Synthetic Surface	No. of projects assisted	2	0	0	0

status of Sports

†449.SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the adequate steps are not being taken to improve the stetus of the sports in the country;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereof;

(c) Whether it is a fact that the difficulties are being faced in improving the status of the sports due to constantly increasing political influence and commercialization in the field of sports; and

(d) if not, Government's reaction In this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government of India, in addition to providing sports infrastructure, is

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

taking following steps to improve the performance of sportspersons in the international games:—

(i) Finalization & implementation of Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) for various sports disciplines in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations, former international sportspersons and sports/scientists experts.

(ii) Provision of equipment and scientific support to sportspersons.

(iii) Intensive coaching of the players by Indian and foreign coaches in coaching camps.

(iv) Intensive training abroad to the teams as well Indian Coaches.

(v) Financial assistance to concerned federations for participation of sportspersons in international tournaments.

(vi) The potential boys and girls are provided scholarships so that they can have nutritious diet, sports equipment support and be able to pursue sports as a career. Scholarships are also given for research in sports.

(vii) Assistance for purchase of equipment, scientific support and training and participation within the country and abroad under the 'Scheme relating to Talent Search and Training" and the "National Sports Development Fund".

(viii) With a view to broad basing of sports and scouting for talent at a young age, the Government is assisting Army under Army Boys Sports Company Scheme. In addition, 25 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been approved for inclusion under "National Talent Search Contest (NTSC) Scheme".

(c) and (d) In the present set up of management of Sports in the country, the National Sports Federation (NSFs) are primarily responsible for promotion of concerned sport discipline. These NSFs are autonomous organization and their office bearers are elected as per their constitution/ Memorandum of Association.

Commercialization in the field of sports is limited to certain sports disciplines. While there could be some adverse effects, it would also help the concerned National Sports Federation to raise funds for the development of the sports concerned and could also provide an incentive for sportspersons to excel.